

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to any paper(s) indicated above, and is responsive in any other manner indicated below.

PENDING CLAIMS

Claims 22-25 were pending, under consideration and subjected to examination in the Office Action. Appropriate claims have been amended, canceled and/or added (without prejudice or disclaimer) in order to adjust a clarity and/or focus of Applicant's claimed invention. That is, such changes are unrelated to any prior art or scope adjustment and are simply refocused claims in which Applicant is presently interested. At entry of this paper, Claims 22-27 will be pending for further consideration and examination in the application.

NON-STATUTORY DBL PAT. REJECT. - TERMINAL DISCLAIMER FILED

The obviousness-type double patenting rejection of claims 22 and 24 as set forth within the Item 2 on page 2 of the "Detailed Action" of the Office Action, is respectfully traversed. However, in order to travel a path of least resistance to obtaining a patent for the present application, submitted herewith is an executed Terminal Disclaimer to overcome the non-statutory double patenting rejection. As a result of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the double patenting rejection of the subject claims are respectfully requested. The above statements, or the filing of any Terminal Disclaimer, should not be taken as an indication or admission that the rejection was valid, but is merely use of a procedural approach to obtain a patent (without prejudice or disclaimer) as quickly as possible given that the

present application's patent may have coextensive term anyways as measured from the same original filing date, regardless of the Terminal Disclaimer. Further discussions/arguments concerning such rejection(s), claims and/or reference are left for the future if/when appropriate.

ALL REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC '102 AND '103 - TRAVERSED

All 35 USC rejections (i.e., the 35 USC '102 rejection of claims 22 and 24 as being anticipated by Wu et al. (U.S. Patent 6,137,469); and, the 35 USC '103 rejection of claims 23 and 25 as being unpatentable over Wu et al. (U.S. Patent 6,137,469) in view of Beery (U.S. Patent 6,215,531)) are respectfully traversed.

All descriptions of Applicant's disclosed and claimed invention, and all descriptions and rebuttal arguments regarding the applied prior art, as previously submitted by Applicant in any form, are repeated and incorporated hereat by reference. Further, all Office Action statements regarding the prior art rejections are respectfully traversed. As additional arguments, Applicant respectfully submits the following.

A concise explanation of the invention defined in the claims, which refers to the specification by page and line number, and to the drawings, if any, by reference characters, is detailed as follows:

Applicant's disclosed and claimed invention has at least one important feature, i.e., intuitive zoom key correspondence, directed toward easing a burden on a user in using zoom-in features of an image apparatus (e.g., still picture apparatus, video apparatus, DVD apparatus). Such feature will be discussed as follows.

More particularly, regarding intuitive zoom key correspondence, Applicant's disclosed and claimed feature is directed toward providing imaging arrangements where zoom-in keys (e.g., on a hand-held remote controller unit) can be easily/intuitively related (with little thinking) to on-screen zoom areas, and intuitively operated by a user with minimal burden to zoom-in a desired area on the screen. Applicant's disclosure visually illustrates at least two examples.

More particularly, FIG. 2 shows a hand-held remote controller having, for example, a 3x3 array of keys. FIG. 3D shows a screen display area partitioned into a visually corresponding 3x3 array of possible zoom-in areas. That is, if a user were to depress the central key (labeled "5") responsive to viewing the possible zoom-in areas, then the FIG. 3D area "#15" would be zoomed as shown in FIG. 3E.

Especially note that it is the correspondence of Applicant's intuitive key-array-to-zoom-in-area-array pattern (and NOT KEY LABELING) which allows a user to intuitively grasp which key to depress to zoom a desired area. That is, a user does not even have to look at what printed labeling on the keys...the printed labeling is irrelevant. Even in the dark, without a lit keypad, a user can intuitively operate zoom-in by using finger feel to match the key pattern to the screen partition pattern. Even if the keys were labeled in Spanish and unreadable by an English user, such user could still intuitively operate zoom-in by intuitively associating the key layout with the possible zoom-in areas. Again, it is the key array pattern correspondence with the zoom-in-area pattern which is important, in that such correspondence allows intuitive operation. That is, note that the FIG. 2 verses FIG. 3D embodiment has a matching array pattern, i.e., 3x3 keys verses 3x3 zoom-in areas.

Another example again involves the FIG. 2 remote controller, but this time involves corresponding, but overlapping zoom areas. More particularly, the display screen can flash back and forth between FIGS. 3A and 3G. FIG. 3A shows dashed line areas 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9, corresponding to arrayed keys 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9, while FIG. 3G shows dashed line areas 2, 4, 6 and 8, corresponding to arrayed keys 2, 4, 6 and 8. Again, a user can intuitively relate the layout of the keys to the layout of the possible zoom-in areas. No labeling would be necessary on the keys.

Regarding distinguishing claim language, independent Claim 22, for example, recites: **“dividing by a picture data processor, the pre-zoom picture into a total of MxN (where M and N are integers) partial areas indicative of selectable zoom-in areas; holding correspondence relations between a plurality of MxN zoom-in area designing keys disposed at least on either one of a main body of said image apparatus or a remote control unit thereof, and the MxN partial areas of the picture on a screen based on said original picture data, respectively; and generating said magnified picture data, based on said original picture data, corresponding to a given one of said MxN zoom-in area designing keys in response to operation of said given one of said MxN zoom-in area designing keys, wherein the plurality of MxN zoom-in area designing keys are arrayed orderly such that the array of said plurality of MxN zoom-in area designing keys can be associated with a plurality of said MxN partial areas of the picture on the screen.”** Other ones of Applicant's presently pending independent claims have similar or analogous features/limitations.

Turning to rebuttal of the primary reference, relative locations of Wu *et al.*'s remote key's 55 (see below) **EXPLICITLY DO NOT CORRESPOND** to relative locations of Wu *et al.*'s "partial areas" (see below), *i.e.*, Wu *et al.*'s twelve keys 55 are interrupted by an intervening mouse arrangement 51-54:

U.S. Patent Oct. 24, 2000 Sheet 5 of 10 6,137,469

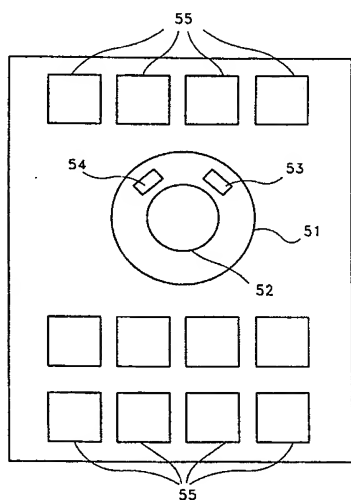


FIG. 5

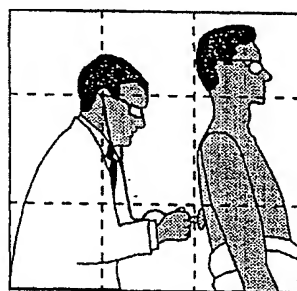


FIG. 1A

Beyond the non-correspondence within Wu *et al.*'s FIGS., Wu *et al.*'s textual disclosure also does not detail any relative location correspondence. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that Wu *et al.* is SILENT regarding meeting Applicant's features/limitations.

Further, it is respectfully noted that a 2 x 3 sub-array of Wu *et al.*'s keys 55 and "partial areas" CANNOT be characterized as fitting Applicant's claims. More particularly, Applicant's independent claim 22, for example, recites "**dividing ... the pre-zoom picture into a total of MxN (where M and N are integers) partial areas indicative of selectable zoom-in areas; holding correspondence relations between a plurality of MxN zoom-in area designing keys disposed at least on**

either one of a main body of said image apparatus or a remote control unit thereof, and the MxN partial areas of the picture on a screen based on said original picture data, respectively". Wu *et al.*'s disclosure fails in that Wu *et al.* discloses a 3 x 3 array of nine (9) TOTAL "partial areas" (see FIG. above), while disclosing twelve (12) TOTAL keys. Even if anyone were to select any nine (9) of Wu et al.'s keys, such would still not have relative location correspondence with Wu et al.'s nine (9) TOTAL "partial areas". In short, there is no relative location correspondence teaching provided by Wu et al.

Traversing further, the other applied reference does not cure such deficiency. More particularly, while Beery's FIG. 3 (reproduced below) does disclose a remote having 3 x 3 numerical keys labeled 1-9, **THERE IS NO ZOOM FEATURE/OPERATION PROVIDED BY BEERY'S REMOTE**. Since there is no zoom feature, it follows that Berry cannot disclose/suggest relative location correspondence between zoom keys and partial areas. Beery appears to have been cited for other teachings (e.g., dual function keys).

Regarding any possible combination of the applied references, "obviousness cannot be established by combining the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention, absent some teaching, suggestion or incentive supporting the combination." ACS Hospital System, Inc v. Montefiore Hospital, 732 F.2d 1572, 1577, 221 USPQ 929, 933 (Fed. Cir. 1984).

In addition to the foregoing, the following additional remarks from Applicant's foreign representative are also submitted in support of traversal of the rejection and patentability of Applicant's claims.

The differences between Applicant's claimed invention and the cited Wu US Patent 6,137,469 patent are as below: More particularly, Wu discloses that a screen picture is divided into 3x3 zoom-in areas and a designated one of the divided zoom-in areas is magnified, as shown in Figs. 1A and 1B. Considering those in Wu corresponding to Applicants' designating (zooming) keys, a magnifying key array is possible up to at most a 2x3 array in Wu (see Fig. 5).

Therefore, Wu discloses nothing about MxN zoom-in area designating keys corresponding to divided picture areas of an entire screen picture on a screen of which each serves as a key magnifying a designated divided picture area which is the case of this invention. (In other words, Wu can only make to correspond zoom-in area designating keys with only limited ones of divided picture areas, but not divided areas of the entire screen picture).

Any other cited references do not disclose such magnifying keys to magnify every partial picture of the entire screen picture. The cited Beery Patent (6,215,531) relates to remote control with programmable tens keys, but does not teach a plurality of MxN zoom-in area designating keys which are a patentable feature of this invention. Therefore, the claimed invention would not be obvious from the combination of Wu and Beery.

As a result of all of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the applied art would not support a '102 anticipatory-type rejection or '103 obviousness-type rejection of Applicant's claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of such '102 and '103 rejections, and express written allowance of all of the rejected claims, are respectfully requested.

EXAMINER INVITED TO TELEPHONE

The Examiner is herein invited to telephone the undersigned attorneys at the local Washington, D.C. area telephone number of 703/312-6600 for discussing any Examiner's Amendments or other suggested actions for accelerating prosecution and moving the present application to allowance.

RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

It is respectfully submitted that any and all claim amendments and/or cancellations submitted within this paper and throughout prosecution of the present application are without prejudice or disclaimer. That is, any above statements, or any present amendment or cancellation of claims (all made without prejudice or disclaimer), should not be taken as an indication or admission that any objection/rejection was valid, or as a disclaimer of any scope or subject matter. Applicant respectfully reserves all rights to file subsequent related application(s) (including reissue applications) directed to any/all previously claimed limitations/features which have been subsequently amended or cancelled, or to any/all limitations/features not yet claimed, i.e., Applicant continues (indefinitely) to maintain no intention or desire to dedicate or surrender any limitations/features of subject matter of the present application to the public.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims listed above as presently being under consideration in the application are now in condition for allowance.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR '1.136. Authorization is herein given to charge any shortage in the fees, including extension of time fees and excess claim fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 500.36859CX1) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Based upon all of the foregoing, allowance of all presently-pending claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

/Paul J. Skwierawski/
Paul J. Skwierawski
Registration No. 32,173

PJS/slk
(703) 312-6600